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Agenda item 123
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized

Sixth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/56/25) on estimates in respect of 15 political missions of which the Security Council is seized, as indicated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report. During its consideration of the matter, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information.

2. The Advisory Committee notes that the report of the Secretary-General is being submitted in the context of actions taken by the Security Council in 2001 regarding good offices, preventive diplomacy and post-conflict peace-building missions on the basis of requests from Governments and/or recommendations of the Secretary-General. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the report, six of the missions were established before 2000. Resource requirements for those missions were incorporated in the initial appropriation and subsequently in the revised appropriation for the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 53/206 of 18 December 1998. As indicated in paragraph 3, the other nine missions were newly authorized during the course of the biennium 2000-2001.

3. As indicated in paragraphs 74 and 75 of the report, the total cost of the activities described in the report is estimated at $29,519,400. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/233 of 23 December 2000, a provision of $93.7 million (before recosting) has been included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for special political missions related to peace and security that are expected to be extended or approved during the course of the biennium. Accordingly, the Assembly is requested to approve the amount of $29,519,400 against the $93.7 million provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

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(A/56/6 (Sect. 3)). During the course of its meeting with representatives of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee was provided with updated potential estimated charges against the provision for special political missions in 2002, amounting to $62,815,200 (see annex).

4. The Advisory Committee expresses its concern at the submission of a proposal of such a magnitude so late in the sessions of both the Committee and the General Assembly. Such proposals should be submitted earlier in order to enable the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee to thoroughly consider their financial and programme aspects. It is not the intention of the Advisory Committee to restrict the ability of the Secretary-General to react in a timely manner with regard to the missions referred to in his report. However, there are a number of aspects of this matter that require a more detailed review by the Committee.

5. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that this matter be deferred pending a detailed review by the Committee in February 2002 and subsequent action by the General Assembly. In the meantime, the Committee recommends approval of a charge of $8 million against the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that, pending consideration of the report of the Secretary-General, no action be taken to fill the additional 41 positions shown in table 2 of the report (A/C.5/56/25), nor should any reclassifications be implemented.

6. During its review of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/56/25) in February 2002, the Committee will consider programme aspects of the estimates for the special political missions. It will also discuss with the representatives of the Secretary-General the interrelationships between the various missions, with a view to identifying potential areas of duplication, as well as issues related to the funding of post-conflict peacemaking and peace-building expenditures in general. Accordingly, for its review in February 2002, the Advisory Committee requests that it be provided with an update of the information contained in the report, as well as programme and financial performance data for the special political missions.

7. **Bearing in mind its comments in the paragraphs above and pending its detailed review of the matter in February 2002, the Committee recommends approval of a charge of $8 million for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002 for the 15 missions dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/56/25) against the provision for special political missions requested under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.**

Annex

Potential estimated charges against the provision for special political missions in 2002

	Title of the account	*Estimated requirement (US$ thousand)*	*Budget period covered (years)*	*Current mandate*
	Authorized by the General Assembly			
1	Central American peace process	190.0	1	Not yet
2	United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala	15 000.0	1	Not yet
3	United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan: Afghanistan office	9 000.0	1	Not yet
4	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Myanmar	277.9	1	Third Committee
	Total, General Assembly mandates	**24 467.9**		
	Other (Security Council matters)			
5	United Nations Office in Burundi	7 600.0	1	Not yet
6	Personal Representative of the Secretary-General in southern Lebanon	1 028.9	1	Open mandate
7	United Nations Political Office for Somalia	1 891.1	2	2 years (S/2001/1098)
8	United Nations Office in Bougainville	1 543.4	1	1 year (S/2001/1028)
9	United Nations Office in Liberia	1 835.2	1	1 year (S/2001/982)
10	Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Africa	124.8	1	1 year (S/2001/1032)
11	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region	1 654.5	1	1 year (S/2001/1096)
12	United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau	2 722.7	1	1 year (S/2001/961)
13	United Nations Office in Angola	2 327.0	3.5 months	3.5 months till 15 April 2002 (S/2001/973)
14	Adviser of the Secretary-General for Special Assignments in Africa	1 120.7	1 year 2 months	Request for extension pending with Security Council
15	United Nations Peace-building Support Office in the Central African Republic	4 734.5	1	1 year (S/PRST/2001/25)
16	Monitoring Mechanism in Angola	713.9	1	3.5 months till 19 April 2002 (S/2001/973)
17	Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus	751.5	1	Not yet
18	United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Tajikistan	1 012.6	1	5 months till 1 June 2002 (S/2001/446)
19	Counter-Terrorism Committee	2 126.0	1	Open Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and S/2001/986
20	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan	3 116.8	1	Open (S/2001/937)

	Title of the account	*Estimated requirement (US$ thousand)*	*Budget period covered (years)*	*Current mandate*
21	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa	4 043.7	2	2 years (S/2001/1129)
	Total, Security Council matters	**38 347.3**		
	Total	**62 815.2**		

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 123
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized

Seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of which the Security Council is seized (A/C.5/56/25/Add.1), containing the proposed resource requirements of the United Nations Office in Burundi, the mandate of which extends into the biennium 2002-2003. During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information.

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that a United Nations presence was established in Burundi in November 1993 in response to the Security Council's request to the Secretary-General to monitor and follow the situation in Burundi closely. Furthermore, in his letter to the President of the Security Council (S/2000/1096), the Secretary-General highlighted the signing of the Arusha Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Burundi on 28 August 2000, emphasizing the role entrusted to the United Nations as Chairman of the Implementation Monitoring Committee and the responsibilities entrusted to the Committee with regard to the implementation of the Agreement.

3. The Secretary-General was granted a commitment authority under the terms of General Assembly resolution 54/252, which amounted to $1,266,200, during the biennium 2000-2001, to carry out the tasks related to the Implementation Monitoring Committee. The related appropriation was requested in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/56/674).

4. In his interim report to the Security Council on the situation in Burundi (S/2001/1076), the Secretary-General indicated that the peace process had been moved to Burundi and that the primary role of the United Nations Office in Burundi

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needed to be readjusted and refocused, in view of the repatriation of the Implementation Monitoring Committee to that country. The Advisory Committee notes that the activities of the Committee's secretariat and the political role previously entrusted to the United Nations Office in Burundi, as well as the various offices established in the field to support the peace process, will now be consolidated under the responsibility of the Chairman of the Implementation Monitoring Committee. The staff and the resources of the Office will therefore be restructured and strengthened to support the Chairman. In addition, the Advisory Committee notes that "the agreement reached on the transitional leadership and the priority that is being given to the effort to reach a ceasefire agreement has added to the work of the Committee itself" (ibid., para. 45). The Security Council has indicated its support to the Secretary-General's recommendations to strengthen the Office in order to assist him in the implementation of the peace accord in Arusha (see S/2001/1207).

5. The Advisory Committee notes from the information contained in annex IA to the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of which the Security Council is seized (A/C.5/56/25/Add.1) that, of the total appropriated amount for the United Nations Office in Burundi of $4,670,000 (February 2000 to December 2001), unaudited expenditures are estimated at $4,670,000, with slight decreases shown under civilian personnel and operational costs, partially offset by overexpenditures under other programmes, because of an increase under public information programmes in view of activities related to the implementation of the Arusha peace agreement and unbudgeted requirements under training.

6. As indicated in section III of the Secretary-General's report, the total cost for the United Nations Office in Burundi, from 1 January to 31 December 2002, is estimated at $6,925,800 and would provide for the establishment of a staffing component of 51 (28 international and 23 local level posts), compared to the current total of 29 (12 international and 17 local level posts), as shown in table 2 (ibid., para. 13).

7. The total requirements under civilian personnel costs of $4,826,700 for the year 2002 include the strengthening of the international component by an additional 16 posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-2, 3 P-5, 3 P-4, 11 P-3, 5 Field Service and 5 General Service), partially offset by the reduction of one P-2 post and six local level staff. These changes are outlined in paragraph 1 of the supplementary information contained in annex IB to the Secretary-General's report. The Committee further notes that a vacancy factor of 25 per cent is taken into account in estimating international staff costs.

8. The resources under civilian personnel costs ($446,300) also include the services of eight international and 10 local consultants explained in paragraph 3 of annex IB to the report and travel resources of $1,015,400, which are explained in paragraph 5 of that annex.

9. The provision under operational costs is estimated at $1,831,700 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002, including $526,600 for non-recurrent costs. This compares to the appropriated amount under this item of $1,401,300 for the biennium 2000-2001 (see paragraph 5 above), of which unaudited expenditures are estimated at $1,375,000 in annex IA to the report. The proposed requirements of $208,400 under transport operations include non-recurrent costs of $133,400 for the replacement of six vehicles indicated in paragraph 8 of annex IB. The provision for

$269,900 under communications includes non-recurrent costs of $100,100 for the acquisition of equipment shown in paragraph 11 of annex IB; non-recurrent requirements of $293,200 are also included in the provision for $305,200 (Other equipment) and explained in paragraphs 14 to 16 of annex IB. The Committee requests that these estimates be further refined, in particular those in paragraph 15 of annex IB to the report.

10. The estimated amount of $794,500 under supplies and services is mostly due to requirements of $648,700 for contractual services in view of the complement of staff in connection with the 12 meetings (with a duration of 12 days each) of the Implementation Monitoring Committee and its Executive Committee, indicated in paragraph 18 of annex IB. The Advisory Committee notes that the meetings previously convened in Arusha, will now be held in Bujumbura.

11. In paragraph 5 of its report A/56/7/Add.5, the Advisory Committee recommended that the estimates in respect of which the Security Council is seized, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/56/25), be deferred pending a detailed review to be conducted by the Advisory Committee in February 2002 and subsequent action by the General Assembly. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends a similar course of action for the current request (A/C.5/56/25/Add.1). In the meantime, the Advisory Committee recommends that an amount of $1,700,000, for the period 1 January to 31 March 2002, be charged against the provision for special political missions requested under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.